

Message Text

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21/13

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DRC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 DLOS-06 OMB-01 COA-02

/135 W

----- 011746

R 160930Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9644

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

LIMITED OFFICAL USE SINGAPORE 4440

E.O. 11652:NA

TAGS: PFOR, MY, SN

SUBJ: RAZAK/LEE ON WATERGATE, MALACCA STRAITS, NEUTRALITY

1. DURING RAZAK VISIT BOTH PMS IN THEIR PUBLIC REMARKS
MADE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS OF INTEREST ON TOPICS
UNCONNECTED WITH BILATERAL RELATIONS:

INDO-CHINA: LEE KUAN YEW IN HIS TOAST, TIED WATERGATE
TO SITUATION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA BY SAYING " IN INDO-CHINA,
THE PROBLEMS SURROUNDING THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT,
ARISING OUT OF WATERGATE, HAVE LEFT THEIR SHADOW ON THE
OTHERWISE RELATIVELY FAIR PICTURE WHICH EMERGED AFTER THE
PARIS PEACE TALKS LAST FEBRUARY.

2. MALACCA STRAITS: AS REPORTED STRAITS TIMES NOV. 16,
RAZAK SAID AT PRESS CONFERENCE, " OUR INTENTION IS TO
ESTABLISH THE STRAITS AS AN INTERNAL WATERWAY. PART OF
THE STRAITS COMES WITHIN THE TERRITORIAL WATERS IN
MALAYSIA. WE HAVE NOT YET ESTABLISHED IT, AND WE INTEND
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TO BRING IT UP AT THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE NEXT

YEAR. AT THIS MOMENT, UNDER THE LAW, WARSHIPS OF OTHER NATIONS CAN PASS THROUGH WITHOUT GIVING US NOTICE. IT IS ONLY AFTER WE HAVE ESTABLISHED IT AS AN INTERNAL WATERWAY THAT THEY HAVE TO GIVE US NOTICE."

3. SOUTHEAST ASIAN NEUTRALITY: RAZAK AGAIN IN PRESS CONFERENCE SAID MAIN IDEA OF NEUTRALITY WAS TO ESTABLISH PEACE IN THE AREA. HE SAID THAT BIG POWERS WOULD BE APPROACHED TO RESPECT SOUTHEAST ASIAN NEUTRALITY ONLY AFTER ALL 10 OR SO COUNTRIES IN THE REGION INCLUDING NORTH VIETNAM AND BURMA HAD AGREED ON NEUTRALITY CONCEPT.

4. COMMENT: IF CORRECTLY QUOTED, RAZAK'S REMARKS WOULD APPEAR TO IMPLY THAT UNTIL LOS CONFERENCE DECIDES OTHERWISE, GOM BELIEVES FOREIGN WARSHIPS CAN LEGALLY PASS THROUGH STRAITS OF MALACCA WITHOUT GIVING PRIOR NOTIFICATION. EMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR MAY WISH TO COMMENT FURTHER.
GRANT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SINGAP04440
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SINGAPORE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731128/aaaaaurq.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28-Nov-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <26-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RAZAK/LEE ON WATERGATE, MALACCA STRAITS, NEUTRALITY
TAGS: PFOR, MY, SN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005